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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/648)*]

57/280. Proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2004–2005

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, in which it requested the Secretary-General to submit in off-budget years an outline of the proposed programme budget for the following biennium,

Reaffirming also section VI of its resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990,

Reaffirming further rule 153 of its rules of procedure,

Recalling its resolutions 56/253 of 24 December 2001, 56/254 D of 27 March 2002, 56/287 of 27 June 2002 and 57/292 of 20 December 2002,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2004–2005,[1] the related recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination[2] and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3]

1. *Endorses* the relevant conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination[2] and the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[3]

2. *Reaffirms* that the proposed programme budget outline shall contain an indication of the following:

(*a*) A preliminary estimate of resources needed to accommodate the proposed programme of activities during the biennium;

(*b*) Priorities reflecting general trends of a broad sectoral nature;

(*c*) Real growth, positive or negative, compared with the previous budget;

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[1] A/57/85.

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/57/16), paras. 25 and 26.

[3] See A/57/636.

(*d*) Size of the contingency fund expressed as a percentage of the overall level of resources;

3. *Also reaffirms* that the budget outline should provide a greater level of predictability of resources required for the following biennium and promote greater involvement of Member States in the budgetary process, thereby facilitating the broadest possible agreement on the programme budget;

4. *Further reaffirms* that the budget proposals of the Secretary-General should reflect resource levels commensurate with mandates for their full, efficient and effective implementation;

5. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to submit, in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005, the total amount of resources that he should have at his disposal, from all sources of financing, in order to implement fully all mandated programmes and activities;

6. *Notes* that the budget outline is a preliminary estimate of resources;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to include in the proposed budget outlines and in the proposed programme budget provisions for expenditures for special political missions related to peace and security expected to be extended or approved in the course of the biennium;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make appropriate provisions in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005 to minimize adverse impacts on the provision of adequate conference services and other related services, in accordance with its resolutions 56/254 D and 56/287, drawing, inter alia, on the improvements made in the management of conference services;

9. *Invites* the Secretary-General to prepare his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005 on the basis of a preliminary estimate of 2,876 million United States dollars at revised 2002–2003 rates;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to resubmit the proposed information technology strategy in accordance with resolution 56/239 of 24 December 2001 during the resumed fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly;

11. *Decides* to consider in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005, in addition to the preliminary estimate, a provision in the amount of 29.8 million dollars for information technology and common services facility infrastructure, bearing in mind the comments of the Secretary-General in paragraph 5 of his report;[1]

12. *Decides also* that the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005 shall contain provisions for recosting on the basis of the existing methodology;

13. *Decides further* that the priorities for the biennium 2004–2005 shall be the following:

(*a*) Maintenance of international peace and security;

(*b*) Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences;

(*c*) Development of Africa;

(*d*) Promotion of human rights;

(*e*) Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts;

(*f*) Promotion of justice and international law;

(*g*) Disarmament;

(*h*) Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in view of his preliminary indicative estimates contained in the proposed budget outline, to reflect the priorities outlined in paragraph 13 above when presenting the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005;

15. *Decides* that the contingency fund shall be set at the level of 0.75 per cent of the preliminary estimate, namely at 21.6 million dollars, that this amount shall be in addition to the overall level of the preliminary estimate and that it shall be used in accordance with the procedures for the use and operation of the contingency fund.

78th plenary meeting
20 December 2002